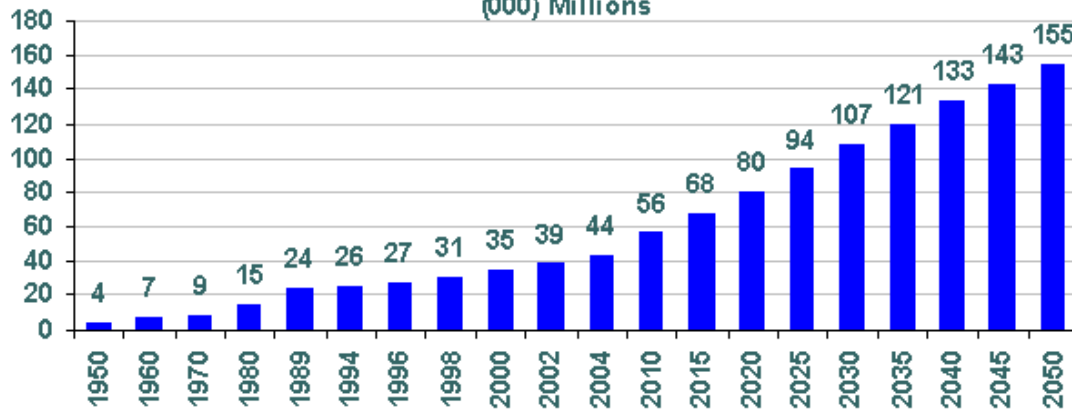


Hispanic Americans in the United States Navy



Former Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) Admiral Mike Mullen declared diversity a “strategic imperative” for the Navy. Mullen’s successor, CNO Admiral Gary Roughead, said the Navy “must embrace the demographic changes of tomorrow, and build a Navy that always reflects our country’s makeup.”

US Hispanic Population and Projections 1950-2050
(000) Millions



Source: Synovate, U.S. Census Bureau

**U.S. Population by Race and Ethnicity
Actual and Projected
Percentage of Total**

	1960	2005
White	85%	67%
Hispanic	3.5%	14%
Black	11%	13%
Asian	0.6%	5%

**Hispanic Americans
have served in our
Navy throughout
our nation's history.
They have fought at
sea in every
American war. They
have served as
ordinary seamen, 4-
star admirals,
boatswains,
corpsmen, fighter
pilots, physicians,
nuclear engineers,
and policymakers.
They have stood not
on the fringes of**

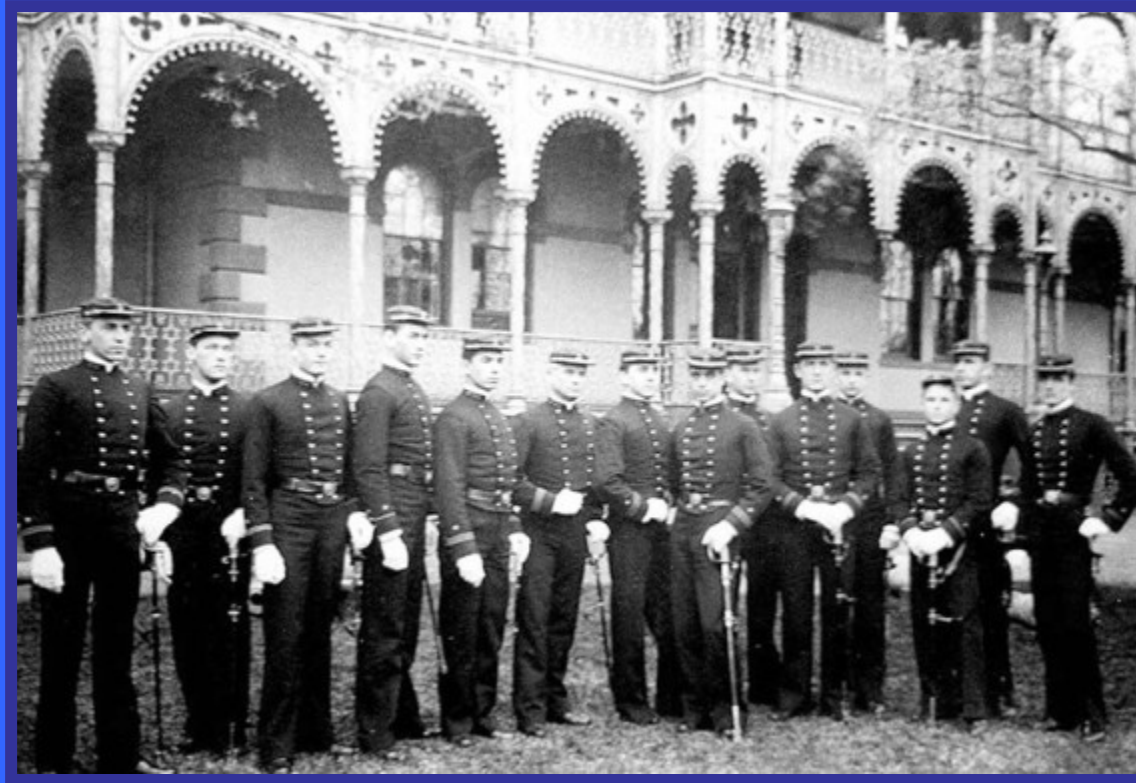


**Born on the island of
Minorca, Jorge
Anthony Magin
Farragut fought in the
South Carolina Navy
during the
Revolutionary War
and served in the U.S.
Navy during the War
of 1812. He is the first
American naval hero
of Hispanic descent.**



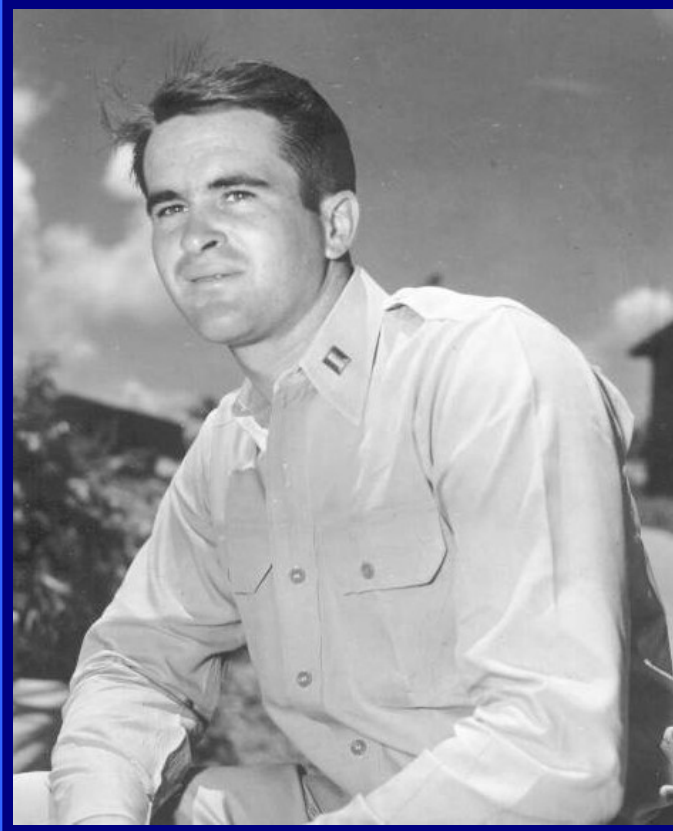
**Jorge Farragut's
son, David
Glasgow
Farragut, was the
greatest naval
officer of the
Civil War, the
greatest
American naval
officer of the
nineteenth
century, and
America's first
full admiral.**





Born in Cuba and appointed from Pennsylvania, Alberto de Ruiz became the first Hispanic Naval Academy graduate in 1875. He was a cadet engineer. Born in Iowa and appointed from Tennessee, Robert F. Lopez was the Academy's second Hispanic graduate (Class of 1879) and its first Hispanic naval cadet. In 1882, the Academy abolished the distinction between cadet engineers and naval cadets in both name and training.

Eugene A. Valencia Jr. scored 23 victories in the Pacific during World War II flying Hellcats, led the most successful fighter plane division in American naval history, and remains the Navy's third ranking ace of all



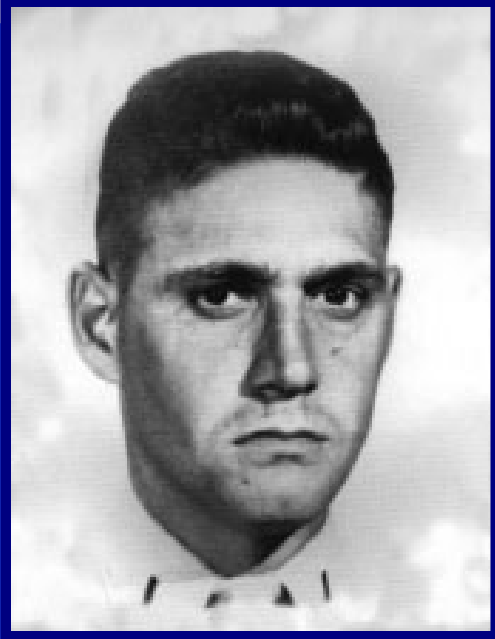
Navy nurse Beatrice Kissinger and Navy WAVE Emma Hernandez numbered among the estimated 250,000-500,000 Hispanic Americans who served in the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II.



Commander (later Captain) Marion Frederick Ramirez de Arellano was the first Hispanic skipper of a submarine. For his actions against the Imperial Japanese Navy during World War II, he received two Silver Stars, the Legion of Merit, and the Bronze Star.



Naval Academy graduate Baldomero Lopez received the Medal of Honor for sacrificing himself to save the lives of his men in the amphibious assault on Inchon during the Korean War.



Forty-three men of Hispanic origin received the Medal of Honor, including 21 who sacrificed their lives. Latinos are the largest single ethnic group, in proportion to the number who served, to receive this prestigious award.



To date, 27 Hispanic Americans have become admirals. Horacio Rivero (1910-2000) was best known for his intellect, leadership, and contributions in developing nuclear weapons. Promoted to full admiral in 1964, he later became Commander in Chief of Allied Forces, Southern Europe. Headquartered in Naples, Italy, this organization combined under one command all

**Everett Alvarez Jr.
was held prisoner in
North Vietnam
longer than any
other U.S. aviator.
His ordeal began on
5 August 1964, when
his A-4C Skyhawk
was shot down over
Han Gai harbor, and
ended eight and a
half years later with
his release in
February 1973.**



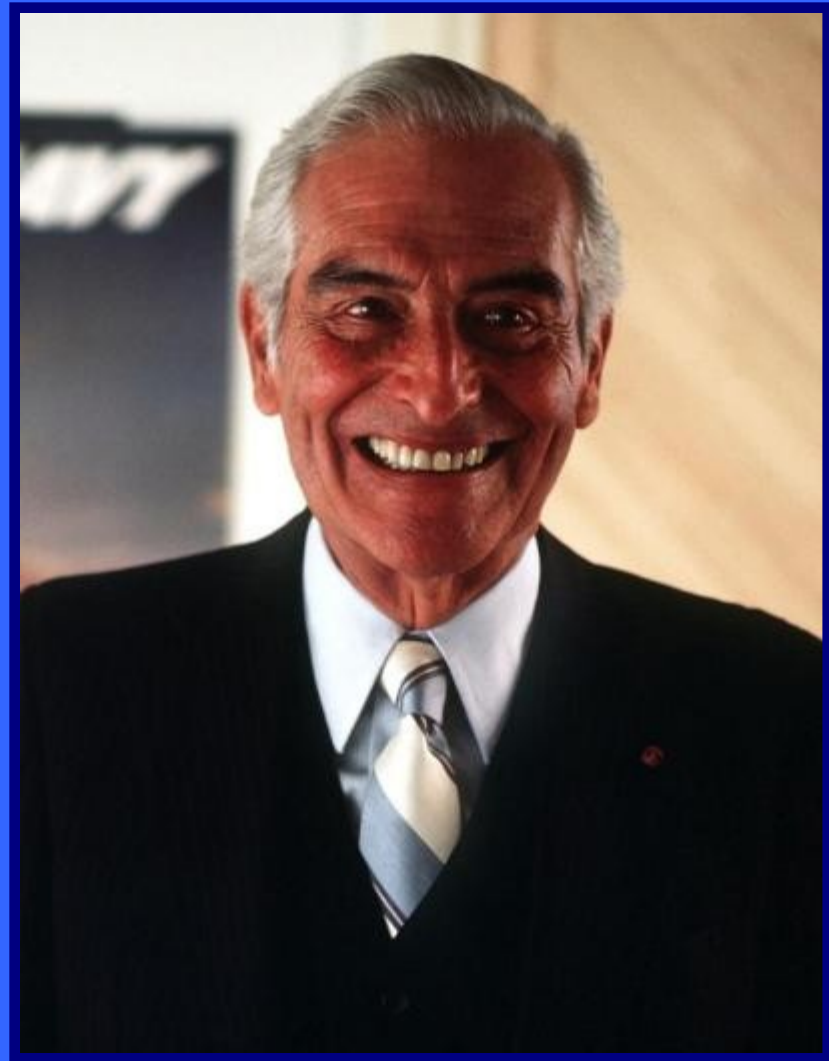


Lt Al Cisneros

USN

In 1975, Lieutenant Al Cisneros became the first Latino pilot to serve with the Blue Angels, the Navy's flight demonstration squadron. The Blue Angels perform high-speed precision aerobatic maneuvers in jet fighters for audiences all over the world.

During the 1970s, the Navy developed an affirmative action plan that for the first time set recruiting goals for people of “Spanish heritage.” In 1979, Edward Hidalgo became the first Hispanic Secretary of the Navy. One of his top priorities was recruiting more Hispanic Americans, especially as officers.



In 1981, Lilia Ramires from Bayshore, New York; Carmen Gilliland from Albuquerque, New Mexico; Trinoria Pinto from Louisville, Kentucky; and Ina Gomez from Grand Junction, Colorado, became the first female Hispanic Americans to graduate from the Naval Academy.





Harvard graduate Kathryn Berndt entered the Navy scholarship program to study medicine, earning an M.D. at Tufts University. Dr. Berndt has since served as the Medical Department head on board USS *Ogden* (LPD 5) and a surgical resident at Naval Medical Center San Diego. As a lieutenant commander, she was the ship's surgeon aboard USS *Ronald Reagan* (CVN 76) and then USS *Carl Vinson* (CVN 70) when that



Navy surgeons Commanders Miguel A. Cubano and Eliseo E. Bautista operate on a patient at Naval Hospital Jacksonville, Florida. Commander. Cubano was named by the Puerto Rico Medical Society as “Physician of the Year”



**Aviation Maintenance Administrationman 2nd
Class Jesus Lopez gives an “OK” signal to
supervisors during diving proficiency training,
February 2005.**

**In 1997, Lieutenant
Colonel Carlos I.
Noriega, USMC, logged
221 hours in space
during NASA's sixth
Space Shuttle mission
to dock with the
Russian Space Station
Mir.**





**Hospitalman
Apprentice
Luis E.
Fonseca Jr.
received the
Navy Cross
for
extraordinary
heroism
while
serving with
the Marines
during the
battle of An**



Rear Admiral Albert Garcia III, deputy commander of 1st Naval Construction Division, is interviewed during a Cinco de Mayo festival in Denver, Colorado. As of April 2007, 22 Hispanic Americans had reached the rank of admiral.



As of 2011, 27 Hispanic Americans have achieved flag rank. Hispanic admirals in uniform today include:



RADM Patrick Brady



RDML A.B. Cruz III



RDML Samuel Perez



Damage Controlman 3rd Class Matthew Villafuerte of the guided missile frigate USS *Ingraham* (FFG 61) secures a machine gun to its mount on a rigid-hull inflatable boat while being lowered from the ship, February 2008.

Lieutenant Alejandro Hernandez signals for an F/A-18C Hornet from Strike Fighter Squadron 131 to launch from the aircraft carrier USS *Dwight D. Eisenhower* (CVN 69), May 2007.





Quartermaster 2nd Class Carolina Castanon, a Sailor in Naval Support Activity Bahrain's Harbor Patrol Unit, makes her rounds, September 2003.

Before retiring from the Navy in 1996, Rear Admiral Marc Y. E. Pelaez served as Chief of Naval Research, managing the Navy and Marine Corps' science and technology programs. With an annual budget of \$1.5 billion, his command included the Office of Naval Research, the Naval Research Laboratory, and





Captain Kathlene Contres, the Navy's highest ranking female Hispanic active duty line officer until her retirement in 2010, became Commandant of the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute in March 2005. Educating more than 1,200 students per year, the Institute is the Defense Department's center of excellence for equal opportunity and equal employment

U.S. Coast Guard Petty Officer 1st Class Salgado Garcia awaits the go-ahead order to board a suspect vessel off the coast of Kodiak Island, Alaska, August 2005.





In July 2006, Joe Campa became the first Hispanic Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy, the service's top-ranking enlisted person.

In 2010 Commander Yvette Marie Davids became the first female Hispanic American to skipper a surface combatant when she took command of the guided missile frigate *Curts* (FFG 39). She was selected to the rank of captain in 2011.



The Navy recognizes the service of nearly 70,000 Sailors and civilians of Hispanic heritage who comprise approximately 11% of our active, reserve, and civilian forces.



A person who is motivated and hard working, and has the honor, courage, and commitment to serve can achieve his or her dreams in the U.S. Navy, regardless of race, creed, color, or ethnic origin.